

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE DIVISION[645]

Adopted and Filed

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 147.76, the Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy hereby amends Chapter 206, "Licensure of Occupational Therapists and Occupational Therapy Assistants," Iowa Administrative Code.

This amendment updates and clarifies the occupational therapy screening process.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on December 17, 2008, as **ARC 7442B**. A public hearing was held on January 6, 2009, from 10 to 10:30 a.m. in the Fifth Floor Board Conference Room, Lucas State Office Building. Public comment was received in writing from 136 individuals.

Since publication of the Notice, the following changes have been made as a result of public comment received. The Board did not adopt the new rules that had been proposed for Chapters 201 and 208 in Items 1 and 3, respectively. The Board based its decision upon public concern that the proposed rules would limit and restrict physician groups in their ability to provide complete patient care. Concern was also raised that the proposed rules would limit and restrict patients in their choice of therapy services.

This amendment was adopted by the Iowa Board of Physical and Occupational Therapy on February 20, 2009.

This amendment will become effective April 29, 2009.

This amendment is intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 21, 147, 148A, 148B and 272C.

The following amendment is adopted.

Amend rule **645—206.1(147)**, definition of "Occupational therapy screening," as follows:

"*Occupational therapy screening*" means a brief process which is directed by an occupational therapist in order for the occupational therapist to render a decision as to whether the individual warrants further, in-depth evaluation and which includes:

1. Assessment of the medical and social history of an individual;
2. Observations related by that individual's caregivers; or
3. Observations or nonstandardized tests, or both, administered to an individual by the occupational therapist or an occupational therapy assistant under the direction of the occupational therapist.

Nothing in this definition shall be construed to prohibit licensed occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants who work in preschools or school settings from providing short-term interventions, ~~not to exceed four months~~, to children prior to an evaluation, not to exceed 16 sessions per concern per school year, in accordance with state and federal educational policy.

[Filed 3/2/09, effective 4/29/09]

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EDITOR'S NOTE: For replacement pages for IAC, see IAC Supplement 3/25/09.